

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, beginning on line 26 as follows:

Fig. 6 shows the beam optical component 1 of Fig. 3a-3b with the difference that the holding pieces of the device, instead of being screws, are setscrews 51 which are screwed into the respective distance elements. Further in Fig. 6, nuts 52 screwed onto the respective setscrews 51 are used to provide a pressure onto the respective electrodes 3, 5, 7 to abut the electrode to the respective distance pieces. The pressure for abutting the electrodes 3, 5, 7 to the respective distance pieces 20a, 20b, 20c, 22a, 22b, 22c can be adjusted by the number of turns of nut 52 on setscrew 51. The holding pieces of Fig. 6 have an advantage in that the respective setscrews 51 can permanently stay within the respective distance pieces, since only nut [[51]] 52 has to be removed when removing the respective electrodes for disassembly of the beam optical component. This way, setscrews 51 can be glued or brazed into the holes of the distance pieces which improves the attachment strength, compared to screwing alone.